(iii) Airports Authority of India (AAI) is undertaking development/modernisation of Kolkata and Chennai airports at an estimated cost of Rs.1942.51 crores (for completion in 30 months) and Rs.1808 crores (for completion in 26 months), respectively.

(iv) Besides, AAI is also undertaking modernisation of 35 non-metro airports and 13 other airports for completion by mid 2010.

Airports in Punjab

136. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the construction and development of civil airports in Punjab;

(b) the cases where the projects are behind schedule and the extent thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to speed up the operations; and

(d) whether any new projects are proposed to be taken up in the State in the near future with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains one international airport at Amritsar, one Civil Air Terminal at Ludhiana and one Civil Enclave at Chandigarh. The project of modular expansion of terminal building at Amritsar Airport is in progress. 70% of work has been completed. The delay has occurred in completion of the project due to change in structural arrangement and increased cost of electrical and air condition work consequent to increase in area.

At Ludhiana Airport the works relating to resurfacing and strengthing of runway, apron and taxi way are in progress.

At Chandigarh Airport, a new terminal building along with passenger boarding bridges is under construction.

(d) A new International Civil Air Terminal Complex on Mohali side of Chandigarh airport has been planned in collaboration with the State Government of Punjab and Haryana.

Losses to airlines

137. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all airlines organizations in India have landed in huge financial losses;

(b) if so, the details of losses of leading airlines organizations for the last three years; and

(c) the major long standing and immediate causes for such losses and the measures undertaken under long term and short term processes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of losses/profit of leading airlines incurred in last three years are as under:

Airline	Profit/Loss (Rs. in Million)		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Air India	-3995.9	-12270.3	-22261.6*
Indian Airlines	495.0	-2402.9	
Kingfisher	-2337.7	-5773.1	-4089.1
Jet Airways	5387.6	279.4	-2530.6
Go Air	-584.0	-2374.7	-1747.6
Spice Jet	-485.3	-721.5	-1323.8

(*Combined profit/loss statement of Air India and Indian Airlines after merger as NACIL).

(c) The spiralling cost of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) coupled with economic slow down have contributed greatly to losses.

The Govt. has undertaken measures such as:

(1) Custom duty on import of ATF has been abolished.

(2) The State Governments have been persuaded to reduce the sales tax on ATF. Government of Andhra Pradesh and in certain cases Government of Rajasthan have reduced the sales tax on ATF to 4%. Government of Maharashtra has also reduced sales tax on ATF from 25% to 4% for flights originating from airports other than Pune and Mumbai.

(3) The Oil Companies have also staggered the dues of Airline Companies over six months.

(4) With the fall in global crude prices, the Oil Companies have been reducing ATF prices since September, 2008.

(5) The infrastructure at the airports and Air Traffic Control and Navigation is being constantly upgraded to meet the future demand of the airlines.

Outsourcing of ground-handling functions

138. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to outsource many functions of ground-handling at various domestic and international airports in India;

(b) if so, which services are being privatized;

(c) which are the companies being considered for the job; and

(d) whether Government has considered the national security angle in outsourcing the services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) As per the new ground handling policy put in place by the Government, the following entities are eligible to carry out ground handling services at metropolitan airports, that is the airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Hyderabad:- 1. (i) Airports Authority of India/ the airport operator itself or its Joint Venture Company; (ii) Subsidiary companies of the national carrier, that is, National Aviation Company of India Limited or its joint ventures specialized in ground